AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-16 (Cancelled).

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A redundant routing system, comprising:

a first routing unit configured to manage input and output data;

a second routing unit configured to manage input and output data;

a network interface connecting said first and second routing units;

a standby bus interface connecting said first and second routing units to each other;

wherein, when said first routing unit is managing said input and output data, said

second routing unit is configured to detect a failure of said first routing unit by monitoring

both said network and standby bus interfaces using messages sent over both the network and

the standby bus interface; ~~and~~

wherein, when said second routing unit detects a failure of said first routing unit, said

second routing unit is configured to deactivate said first routing unit so that said first routing

unit no longer manages said input and output data and said second routing unit is further

configured to start managing said input and output data, and

wherein sets of parameters for interpreting the messages, comprising configuration

parameters of an application running on at least one of the first and second routing units, are

stored in at least one configuration file included in both said first and second routing units.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 17, wherein said first and

second routing units have identical functions and include identical software and configuration

files.

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Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 17, further comprising at least one serial link connecting said first and second routing units to at least one other system.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 19, wherein said at least one serial link comprises at least one Y-split cable.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 19, wherein, when said first routing unit detects a failure in itself, said first routing unit is configured to deactivate itself to cease managing said input and output data and allow said second routing unit to start managing said input and output data.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 21, wherein said first routing unit deactivates itself and activates said second routing unit by a change in an impedance of at least one input/output serial port.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 22, wherein the change in impedance imparts putting said at least one input/output serial port in a high impedance state.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 17, wherein said second routing unit deactivates said first routing unit by sending a reset command to said first routing unit via the standby bus, said reset command executing a reset algorithm on said first routing unit.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): The system of claim 17, wherein the messages are polling messages that are exchanged via said network and standby bus interfaces, said polling messages carrying information relevant to detecting said failure.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 25, wherein said second routing unit detects said failure of said first routing unit when said polling messages are not properly responded to on at least one of said network and standby bus interfaces.

Claim 27 (Cancelled).

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): The system of claim 27 claim 17, wherein, when launching an application on said first and second routing units, a the set of parameters appropriate to said application is loaded into a random access memory (RAM).

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 17, wherein said network interface links said first and second routing units with at least one remote client system.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 17, wherein said network interface is the Internet.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 17, wherein said network interface is an Ethernet network.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 17, wherein said network interface is a digital local area network (LAN).

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 17, wherein said first and second routing units operate in Open Communication Processor (OCP) mode.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 17, further comprising an alert protocol to warn of a possible failure of the system.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 17, wherein said first and second routing units are data routers.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 17, wherein said first and second routing units are data servers.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 18, wherein, after said second routing unit is activated and starts managing input and output data, said first routing unit is configured to detect a failure of said second routing unit.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 17, wherein, when said first routing unit detects a failure in itself, said first routing unit is configured to deactivate itself to cease managing said input and output data and allow second routing unit to start managing said input and output data.

Claim 39 (Currently Amended): A redundant routing system, comprising:

first routing means for managing input and output data;

second routing means for managing input and output data;

networking means for connecting said first and second routing means;

connecting means for directly connecting said first and second routing means to each

other;

failure detection means, wherein, when said first routing means is managing said

input and output data, said second routing means is configured to detect a failure of said first

routing means using both said networking and connecting means by using messages sent over

both the networking and connection means; and

resetting means, wherein, when said second routing means detects a failure of said

first routing means, said second routing means is configured to deactivate said first routing

means so that said first routing means no longer manages said input and output data and said

second routing means is further configured to start managing said input and output data;

wherein said first and second routing means include,

configuration means, storing sets of parameters for interpreting the messages, the sets

of parameters comprising configuration parameters of an application running on at least one

of the first and second routing means.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 39, further comprising linking

means for connecting said first and second routing means to at least one other system.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 39, wherein, when said first

routing means detects a failure in itself, said first routing means is configured to deactivate

itself to cease managing said input and output data and allow second routing means to start

managing said input and output data.

Claim 42 (Currently Amended): The system of claim 39, further comprising polling means for exchanging ~~polling~~ the messages being polling messages via said networking and connecting means, said polling messages carrying information relevant to detecting said failure.

Claim 43 (New): The redundant routing system of Claim 17, wherein the at least one configuration file further includes:

the messages themselves;

at least one transmission interval between the messages; and

at least one time limit between two messages.

Claim 44 (New): The redundant routing system of Claim 39, wherein the at least one configuration means further includes:

the messages themselves;

at least one transmission interval between the messages; and

at least one time limit between two messages.